

# MLA BULLETIN

MARITIME LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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"HELP — SEND OUT THE RESERVES!"

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## COVER...

Cartoon by Bob Chambers of the Halifax Mail-Star, reproduced by kind permission, sums up the public libraries' plight—see the report on regional and public library activity in Nova Scotia for 1952, in this issue.

## THE PRIVILEGED PROFESSION GAINS SOME GROUND

The editorial in the Fall BULLETIN hung an ambitious title on an unserious discussion. This month, Maritime librarians see some reason to consider whether they are a privileged profession indeed—and whether the public admits it too.

On the positive side, we note the appointment of Douglas G. Lochhead at Dalhousie University: the second fulltime head librarian since the present library was built in 1915, the first man (part-time faculty supervision not counted), and the first holder of graduate degrees to head the library.

On the negative side, the unfortunate hassle in Saint John has not been won by anyone. All librarians sympathize with Pat Hart in her stand that professional training is needed to exercise professional judgment, and that policy, not operation, is the function of a board of trustees.

The only conclusion an onlooking librarian can reach is that libraries in Upper Canada (synonymous in the Maritimes with Babylon) may pay more, but that things are booming down here and it's more fun to stay and fight.

Aiding in the fight, Jim MacEacheron's letter in this issue points up one of our needs in the M.L.A.: the most effective organizational voice. Last summer our conference got good press cooperation, but we need more than that. I think the Bulletin has a function, or I wouldn't have stuck my neck out to do this job. At present, it's a one-man job: accumulating, polishing and typing material, and preparing multilith masters. Presswork, done by the Multi-graph Division in the Provincial Building, is kindly subsidized by the Nova Scotia Research Foundation. The various regions some time ago appointed representatives to gather news, but this job has to be initiated and coordinated by the editor, and because busy people are doing the local reporting, they can not always give sufficient time to it.

But Bulletin policy has never been directed by M.L.A.—though the executive and other wise librarians in my neighborhood give time and advice when asked. Perhaps indeed the Bulletin should be discussed at Sydney in June.

About some points specifically raised in Jim's letter: I can take the blame for a late issue this time, hoping the Grossman Report would be released. As it is, coincidence brought a raft of news in January. The Bulletin publishes whatever articles I can latch onto—I try to refrain from putting in too many of my own, though—because of the way the Bulletin is edited—my own writing style must often crop up in news articles. If Maritime librarians would admit that they write things—not have to be goaded into it—we'd have more variety to choose from. I refuse to reprint material from "outside".

Now—Maritime librarians—do we want a professional periodical? Do we look at our own affairs with the larger view now and then? Do we think about some library administration? Do we write about it? Or do we want a social sheet, or a straight news sheet, or doesn't anyone want it enough to say so?

# WRITING HISTORY in the ARCHIVES

By PHILLIS R. BLAXLEY

I am always amazed at the number of people who have never heard of the Public Archives of Nova Scotia, and at the number who have never visited it or who haven't the slightest notion of what is there. Actually, the Archives is a combined historical museum and historical library. Dr. Harvey often tells about the lady who telephoned to ask, "What is the best diet for a moth?" and about an elderly lady who came in from the country and was disappointed that we had no animals to show her. I am usually called a "research assistant" or "Assistant Archivist". The other day in the bank, the teller asked me if I was an "architect". I couldn't imagine what she was talking about. "No," I said, "I'm not an architect. I can't even draw a straight line." "But it says here on your card that you're an architect." Light dawned: "Oh—you mean archivist. I work at the Public Archives of Nova Scotia." That puzzled her more than ever, so I had to try to explain!

Like many other words, "Archives" may mean two things—either a collection of documents, books, newspapers, maps, portraits, etc., concerning the history of a country or an institution; or it may mean the building in which such a collection is housed. One might say that an Archives is housed in an Archives building, but this is not always true. Most of the Provincial Archives in Canada are housed in legislative libraries or museums or other government buildings: that of P.E.I. in the Legislative Building, that of New Brunswick in the N.B. Museum. I believe Nova Scotia and Ontario are the only provinces that have a building used solely for the purpose of preserving its Archives. The Massey Report says (p.120), "Thanks to private generosity, the very historically minded Province of Nova Scotia has a modern and adequate building" for its Archives.

The Public Archives of Nova Scotia was the gift of the late W. H. Chase of Port Williams to the people of Nova Scotia. It is the flat-roofed structure alongside the new Arts and Administration Building on the Studley Campus of Dalhousie University. Many people still believe that it is part of Dalhousie University and that only history students are welcome. Actually the Archives is supported by the Provincial Government, but to keep it free from party politics a special act was passed specifying that both the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition should always be on the Board of Trustees. Other members of the Board are the Lieutenant-Governor, the Chief Justice, the President of Dalhousie, and the President of the Nova Scotia Historical Society. Dalhousie University donated the site and the building is heated from the heating plant of Dalhousie.

The Archives are open to the public every day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. On Saturday it is closed at 1 p.m., but it is open from 7:30 to 10 on Wednesday evenings. There is no admission fee, and all information or advice supplied by the staff is free. Most of the Americans who visit the building expect to pay for services rendered.

There are seven main duties of the Archives:

1. To organize the material gathered in past years and now in the building.
2. To collect new material.

3. To establish a friendly feeling of cooperation between the public and the institution.

4. To carry on continual research work, giving the most important results of this work to the public of Nova Scotia in articles, reports, calendars, and bulletins, and in talks and speeches. That is why I write articles for the Dalhousie Review and Canadian Historical Review, and why we have "Evolution of the Halifax Fortress", "Glimpses of Halifax", bulletins of Education, the Arms Fund, etc.

5. To preserve the documents already in the building from mold, fading, etc. This means occasional surveys of all our documents and making notes of what must be photostated and microfilmed, and a systematic plan of steadily having all our newspapers put on microfilm before age and use destroy them.

6. To look after students and casual visitors and answer their inquiries in person or by letter.

7. We are always glad to arrange for a guide to take classes of school children, or church groups or clubs, on a tour of the building.

You never know what tourists or children are going to ask. Everyone who works in a reference library knows that is what makes the work interesting. Glancing through Dr. M. G. Burris' My Pioneer Ancestors for dry facts on the churches in Musquodoboit I was rewarded with anecdotes about Rev. John Sprott, Presbyterian Minister there for 43 years. Mr. Sprott disapproved of the music of instruments in the church service. Despite his well-known attitude on this matter, one of his congregations insisted on using the kirk fiddle. One Sabbath all could see that Mr. Sprott was irritated by the music of the fiddle. When it came to the closing hymn he announced the 119th Psalm thus: "We will fiddle and sing to the Glory of God in the 119th Psalm. Basil! Basil! Get my horse!" And as the fiddle wailed forth the first of the 176 verses, Mr. Sprott descended from the pulpit and walked calmly out of the Church to ride away on the horse brought by his servant.

The first interest in Nova Scotian history was aroused by Thomas Chandler Haliburton, later renowned for "Sam Slick". The young lawyer who was starting practice in Annapolis Royal spent his time writing an "Historical and Statistical Account of Nova Scotia." The history ends in 1763, because Haliburton wrote that after the Seven Years' War "the uniform tranquility and repose which Nova Scotia has since enjoyed affords us no materials for an historical narrative." Haliburton's history was published by Joseph Howe in 1829. Thomas Beamish Akins, a young lawyer in Halifax, was one of those who helped Haliburton collect material for his history. Haliburton had a dreadful time writing his history because he couldn't get his hands on the documents, and there were no libraries he could consult. The government documents were in the files of the different departments of the government or stored in the attic or cellar of Province House. You come up against the same problem today if you are writing history after Confederation.

However, interest in the history of Nova Scotia increased steadily as the patriotic feelings of Bluenoses grew. On April 30, 1857, Joseph Howe, the great reform leader, made a motion in the House of Assembly requesting that the documents of Nova Scotia be examined, preserved and arranged. J. W. Johnston, the great Tory leader, seconded the motion. Nova Scotia was the first province to start caring for its historical records. Thomas Akins, then 48 years old, was appointed Commissioner of Public Records--really the first

Archivist. He served for 34 years—collecting the documents, sorting them, binding them and making rough calendars. The government paid him hardly any money but he was a well-to-do lawyer and was fascinated by the history of his native province. About 1880 two copyists—Tobin and Kingston—were employed in England in transcribing documents, but their services were discontinued about 1885. About 100 volumes of transcripts of documents were made in England. Each volume was indexed, but there is no general index of them. Today this material would be photostated or microfilmed, not copied by hand. Akins published some documents, wrote a "History of Halifax", and helped his cousin Beamish Murdoch with his three-volume History of Nova Scotia. This came out in 1865 and is still the most important reference book for Nova Scotian history. It has no style at all, but is packed with detail and arranged in chronological order.

Kingsford's History of Canada and Murdoch's History of Nova Scotia show that any conscientious annalist may produce ponderous tomes of excellent but disorganized material, without discernment and without light. These books are what I call "first drafts". The reason so many Canadian hate history is that the only histories they have read are dull books like these—without interpretation or style. But they were pioneers in research and should be honoured as such.

After Akins died in 1891, the Nova Scotia Archives were neglected. First they were stored in the attic of Province House; later Harry Piers took charge of them along with the Provincial Museum, and in 1914 removed them to a vault in the Nova Scotia Technical College. In this period when there was no one actively collecting, a number of valuable records were acquired by the Public Archives of Canada at Ottawa, and by the New England Genealogical Society in Boston. The Dominion Archives had a Nova Scotian branch first under W. C. Nilner and then under Alvin MacDonald, former editor of the Halifax Chronicle. They collected material for Ottawa, and brought some Ottawa material here on loan. After the Provincial Archives re-opened, the Dominion branch closed. Documents belonging to Federal departments in Nova Scotia go to Ottawa, from Provincial departments to our own Archives.

In the main entrance hall of the present Archives building are portraits of Joseph Howe and W. H. Chase, and tablets in honor of T. B. Akins and Beamish Murdoch—the four cornerstones of historical research in Nova Scotia.

The foundation stone of this building was laid on August 29, 1929, by Premier E. N. Rhodes. The building was formally handed over to the Province on January 7, 1931, but it was not really ready to serve the public until two years later. The Board of Trustees arranged for the Dominion Archives to send a man down to supervise the transfer of records to the new building. This was done, but records were piled helter-skelter on the ground floor. When the carters ran out of boxes they dumped papers from a Crown Lands box on the floor and packed Mining papers in that box. You can imagine the mess when Dr. D. C. Harvey finally arrived from Vancouver to take charge. Dr. Harvey's home was in P.E.I.; he was a graduate of Dalhousie and a Rhode scholar, and had been head of the History department at U.B.C.

If you do enter the back door of the Archives you find yourself in the newspaper room with shelves and shelves of old Nova Scotian newspapers. We have almost a complete file of the Acadian Recorder which first appeared during the Napoleonic Wars and lasted until the depression of the 1930's, and we have most of the Nova Scotian, Howe's old paper, not to mention modern papers. Newspapers throw a good deal of light on the past, but it is often distorted.

So, before using a paper, the historian must get its particular angle. It is useful to know that the British Colonist is a Tory paper and supported Sir Charles Tupper and Confederation, and that the Chronicle wanted Repeal and went into mourning on the first Dominion Day, and that the Halifax Journal was only interested in commerce. The two hand printing presses on this floor were used to publish Howe's Novascotian. It is important to remember that Howe could collect his own news, come back and write it, write editorials, set type and print the paper himself. There were many difficulties in publishing a newspaper in those days.

Many people find it fun to pore over old newspapers. One man comes in regularly to look up old military affairs, another old sporting events. You never know what you may find. In the Liverpool Transcript of June 11, 1857, I noticed this item:

One Prays and Another Pumps— The ship Senator, which arrived at this port from Liverpool last week, in a leaky condition, met with a very severe gale of wind just after leaving port, on the 9th of April, in which she shifted her cargo and sprung a leak. After several days of hard pumping, the crew, becoming exhausted and discouraged, notified the captain that they could pump no longer. Capt. Coffin here-upon assembled all hands. Taking out his watch, he looked at it and then at the men, and said coolly: "It is now just twelve o'clock; at the rate the ship is now leaking, I calculate we shall all be in the other world at about half-past two. I am going below to say my prayers." and went into his cabin. A consultation was soon held. One old fellow declared he had rather pump than to pray, as he understood it better, and it agreed better with his constitution. In a few minutes the captain heard the pumps going again lively as ever, and they did not cease going, except at short intervals, until the ship arrived at New York. (New York Times)

At the far end of the newspaper room is the bindery where Mr. George MacLaren cleans and repairs old documents and books and binds them.

On the second floor are the Archivist's office, and the main historical museum which is a room about 120 by 40 feet. Its walls are lined with pictures, oil portraits and ship models, and its cases are filled with miscellaneous items of all sorts from the oldest document in the Archives—the Patent of Charles I making Sir James Sinclair a Knight Baronet of Nova Scotia in 1631—presented by Premier Macdonald—to the first Canadian airmail stamps, church silver that was used in the reign of George III, and the book containing the names of the first settlers who came to Halifax with Governor Edward Cornwallis in 1749. Most of the pictures belong to the Nova Scotia Museum of Fine Arts who expect to keep them here until we have a new College of Art and an Art Gallery. This part of the Archives is the most interesting for the casual visitor and the tourist and for school children. The cases are arranged in chronological order around the room beginning at the left of the door. Different periods in Nova Scotian history are illustrated here: Indians, the coming of the white men, French settlements at St. Croix and Port Royal, the Seven Years' War and the struggle between French and English, the founding of Halifax, the coming of the New Englanders, the Hector, the Loyalists, the Golden Age of Sail.

The Halifax-Dartmouth Room is at the end of the hall behind the stairway. Old views of both places hang along the walls. Some interesting relics include a lock of Napoleon's hair—don't be incredulous—Napoleon's hair was

cut on board H.M.S. Northumberland while the British were taking him to St. Helena in 1815. The barber gave the hair to his friends among the crew, and one sailor later settled in Halifax. The seals are impressions from the hilt of the Emperor's sword. The relic is now valued at \$1000.

There's another floor and you'll probably be sorry you didn't take the elevator. This is the Archives proper, where the documents and books are. In the center is the Reading Room with tables for anyone who wants to work there. People can read books there, but we are not allowed to lend them to be taken out of the building. In the alcove are the map and photo collections. There is a case filled with DesBarres' "Atlantic Neptune"—charts of the coast of America which were used by Lord Nelson when he was on the North American station. We have one map which we can't spread out because it is bigger than any room we have. In November it was needed to settle a legal case about ownership of timberland on the border of Pictou and Colchester Counties.

To the left of the Reading Room is the Modern Library and on the right is the Manuscript Room. We get all sorts of inquiries here—a man wants a picture of Buckingham Palace, another has come from New Brunswick to see the Post Office Records, two boys want to see Sumter Larrabee's diary of Liverpool from which Tom Raddall quotes, a student wants to read about the Brandy Election, a lawyer brings his stenographer to make notes on a legal case. I would say that nine out of ten of our inquiries are about families or places. We are steadily building up files on "People" and "Places" and finding them invaluable. But we don't get so many people asking for answers to radio quizzes since the Memorial Library opened!

In the Modern Library are some amazingly old books—but nothing like the rare books King's College has. This is our reference library on Nova Scotian history. Our ideal is to have every book written by a Nova Scotian—no matter what subject—and every book written about Nova Scotia. We are a long way from our ideal but we buy new books as they come out and try to pick up old ones we don't have. We have shelves of county histories and Nova Scotian biography, and novels written by Nova Scotians. We do have some reference books on British and American and Canadian history—we need them to understand what is going on in Nova Scotia. We also have other books that people have given to us along with books we really wanted about Nova Scotia.

Most books are secondary sources of history—they were written long after the men and events they describe. But some books are primary sources because they describe events the writer saw himself. Such books are Champlain's Voyages, Lescarbot's "History of New France", and Captain Mooreson's "Letters from Nova Scotia", along with minute books, journals, and diaries. There are different kinds of histories and historians. All are needed, and if the work is well done they are valuable. History is like a pyramid. At the bottom are (1) local historians or antiquarians, working more or less spasmodically, spurred on by family interest, tradition, or civic pride. They may produce a family tree using tradition, church records, land grants and deeds. They may write biographical sketches or the history of a township or village, with lists of original settlers, the first sawmill, the first town meeting, etc. Unfortunately, most of them aren't trained to be accurate or to take down their references carefully, and their work has to be taken with a grain of salt.

Next (2) come the county historians—like Eaton's History of King's County, Patterson's History of Pictou County, DesBrisay's History of Lunenburg County. These are getting out of date—most of them were done fifty

years ago. County historians use material collected by genealogists and district historians, and also land records, provincial archives, etc. They can avoid too frequent repetition of common experiences, and can discuss larger political, legal, religious and educational arrangements.

The Provincial historians (3) use county histories and provincial archives—minutes of the council, journals of the assembly, Governor's correspondence, etc. They can select a few subjects or a limited period and amplify them in a single readable volume that will tell the general Canadian historian all he needs for compiling his work.

Then (4) we can have real Canadian history—not just a history of Central Canada with the Maritimes and the West added as an appendix. As Dr. Harvey wrote in the Dalhousie Review (July 1943, p.194), "Hardly a day goes by without some complaint that our histories of Canada ignore the Maritime Provinces, or give inaccurate accounts of them, or treat them as a mere appendix to the history of Central Canada; and, when the authors of these histories are reproached for their sins of omission, they naturally reply that they were unable to find an adequate history of any of these provinces from which to get their information. Unfortunately, that reply is unanswerable, and it is our duty to see that intelligent histories of these three provinces are written..."

At the top of the pyramid (5) are general histories concerned with mankind and world history.

There is another library in the Nova Scotia Archives: the Akins Library. Dr. Akins left his extensive library, the largest collection of Novascotiana to be found, to the people of Nova Scotia on condition that it be kept in a fireproof building, to be called the Akins Library, and never be mixed with other books. You know what that means. Whenever somebody makes an inquiry about a book the librarian must check both libraries. Some of the books in the Akins Library are worth several thousand dollars—there are priceless first editions of Hakluyt, Champlain, Lescarbot, Denys, Captain John Smith. It leans heavily to political history and journals of assembly, but you may find anything there from the report of the Protestant Orphanage to the first magazine published in Canada—the Nova Scotia Magazine published in 1789 by John Howe.

In the Manuscript Room we pass stacks of Railway Papers and Land Grants, School Papers and Assembly Papers, family collections, church and community records, census records, papers given to us for safekeeping by societies like the Commercial Club, the Charitable Irish Society, the I.M.C.A. We should have copies of all the old Church records. As people are coming to know the Archives and the work we do, they are sending in more documents for safekeeping. In the past few years we have acquired a number of private and family collections of great importance. But we believe that there are still many documents and papers gathering dust in forgotten corners and dark attics of many a house in the province—where they remain in constant danger of fire and destruction. Isolated documents may be of little value in themselves, and of little commercial value—but they often fill an important gap in a series we already have.

Some of the stories we have heard about the unwitting destruction of documents and books in this province are disheartening. One man who belonged to an old Nova Scotian family told me that he had two aunts living in Montreal. One aunt was interested in family history and had a large collection of material—the other considered it nonsense. When the historical aunt died, the

other one destroyed all the family papers. A woman I was showing around the Archives last year told me she wishes she had known about the Archives when she was clearing out the old homestead after her mother's death—for she had burned most of the old papers and she knew now that they should have been sent to the Archives. We are always glad to have you call or write us, and we will gladly look at old books and documents and tell you whether they are valuable and if we would like to have them.

When you step into the Manuscript Room you are in the world of the past. Before you are Royal Proclamations issued and signed by the Kings and Queens of England from Anne to Victoria. Before you too are original letters of the great British statesmen of those years. What was British policy in America during the Seven Years' War? Read William Pitt's own directions to the Governor of Nova Scotia. Here is an old French register of Port Royal, beginning in 1702; papers signed by the Duke of Kent and Lord Dalhousie; even a recipe for carrot pudding. Here is life in the kitchen as well as the Court.

How did the people live when they were not writing letters and petitions? Why did they come to Nova Scotia? What did they eat and drink? What did they think? What type of work did they do? The answers—or some of them—lie in these documents, which—far from being dry as dust—are the embodiments of living thought. Read the diaries of Simeon Perkins of Liverpool, Mary Ann Morris of Cornwallis; papers of the Chipman family of King's County, the White family of Shelburne, the letters and journals of Jacob Bailey, the frontier missionary. All this is social history—the kind of history I like best. If our school children could read their history from the documents, or come to the Archives to see some of the documents and relics connected with the history they are learning, they would not find it as dull as some of them do.

*This is the first part of a talk by Miss Blakeley to the Halifax Library Association. The second part, describing her experience in writing a history textbook, will appear later. The book is The Story of Nova Scotia, published by J. M. Dent.,*

## Lochhead New Dalhousie Librarian

Douglas G. Lochhead has been appointed University Librarian of Dalhousie University, effective in July 1953. Mr. Lochhead comes to Dalhousie from Cornell University where he became Librarian of the University Library in 1952. He is a graduate of McGill (B.A. in sociology, 1943; B.L.S. 1951) and Toronto (M.A. 1947). He brings to university library work a varied background in administration, librarianship and letters. He has been an information officer in the Publications Section of Central Mortgage and Housing Corp., and on the staff of a Toronto advertising agency and the Ottawa Evening Journal. With the Canadian Army in 1943-45 he had the rank of Lieutenant. He has taught in Crescent Preparatory School, Toronto; been a reference assistant in the Toronto Public Library and the Victoria College Library, Victoria, B.C.; and published poetry in Saturday Night, Canadian Poetry Magazine, etc. His thesis at Toronto was "The Heroic Mood and the War Fiction and Prose Autobiography of the First World War."

Mrs. Lochhead, the former Jean Beckwith, is a native of Sydney, N.S., and a graduate of Mount Allison (B.A. 1944) and Toronto (B.L.S. 1945). She has been on the staff of the Toronto, Ottawa and Victoria Public Libraries and the School of Commerce Library at McGill.

## Book Selection Disputed in Saint John

Upon request by the Saint John Common Council, Mrs. J. G. Hart has postponed her resignation as chief librarian of the Saint John Free Public Library, and will remain until the end of June. Mrs. Hart resigned when the Board of Commissioners of the library set up a committee on book selection which would be the overriding authority on library purchases. Executive Director E. D. Walsh of the Common Council said, according to the Saint John Telegraph-Journal, that "two members of this committee want to be the 'sole arbiters' of ~~what~~ what books should be bought." Mrs. Hart had advised the board that she could not operate under this method of book selection and at the same time maintain adequate service in the library.

The Common Council received protests from local cultural groups over the library issue. The Saint John Art Center, the Film Council, and other groups called the resignation "a regrettable error and a great loss". The Council called the library board to appear at a council meeting to discuss the matter, in effect asking it to back down on the stand it had taken. The library board replied that the council's resolution would "strike at the existence of all independent boards appointed by the council... would take out of the hands of such boards decisions on matters of policy." The library board claimed that book selection by a committee of trustees was "the method which was in force from the establishment of the library in 1885 until two years ago."

In her letter of resignation, Mrs. Hart also indicated lack of professional staff as a difficulty in library operation.

Although the issue has not been finally settled, Mrs. Hart acceded to the Common Council's resolution asking her to reconsider, and has agreed to remain six months beyond the date of her resignation, originally Dec. 31, 1952.

The appointment of a second professional librarian to the Saint John library staff was announced in January. Mrs. Ruth Benton, a graduate of the University of Toronto Library School, recently accompanied her soldier husband to take up residence in Saint John. She will be part-time reference librarian on duty Monday, Thursday and Friday afternoon, Friday evening and Saturday morning. A Calgarian, Mrs. Benton has been with the Department of National Defence in Kingston, Ont.

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### LIST OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL PERIODICALS TO BE SUPPLEMENTED IN 1953

The Maritime Library Association and the Nova Scotia Research Foundation expect to publish a supplement to the Union List of Scientific and Technical Periodicals in the Libraries of the Maritime Provinces and Newfoundland early in 1953. Maritime libraries already included, and those wishing to be included for the first time, should send their entries on cards to the Editor, Mr. M. P. Boone, Librarian, Legislative Library, Fredericton, New Brunswick, as soon as possible. The Editor would appreciate having the entries in the same form as that used in the printed list. In the case of very recent journals, the date of Volume 1 should always be included. Any library wishing an extra copy of the Union List for checking purposes should write to the Library, Nova Scotia Research Foundation, Box 1027, Halifax, N.S.

## Halifax Library to Get Provincial Aid?

The Province of Nova Scotia would be willing to grant the City of Halifax up to 35¢ per capita, or about \$30,000, to assist the Halifax Memorial Library. Mr. Hicks, provincial Minister of Education, so informed the City Council in December, and the Council has empowered Mayor Donahoe to appoint a committee of three aldermen to confer with the Province for "further clarification".

The Regional Libraries Act of 1952 now enables the Province to support only regional libraries involving more than one municipality. Under this act, the Town of Dartmouth and the Municipality of the County of Halifax would have to cooperate in a Halifax regional scheme. The government will submit to the Nova Scotia Legislature at the 1953 session an amendment which would make the Halifax library eligible for support without the other areas.

Elsewhere in Nova Scotia, regional libraries are supported by the Province dollar-for-dollar of local support, to a maximum grant of 25¢ per capita. The government is prepared to match local Halifax contributions up to 35¢ per capita, for expenditures on library staff and books, but not for buildings. The City would not lose control over its own library by accepting provincial funds or by joining as a unit in a regional system, it was made clear.

### NEW BRUNSWICK SCHOOL LIBRARY GRANTS SMALL, TEACHERS SAY

Inadequacy of the present \$20 school library grant to large school districts in New Brunswick was discussed at a special meeting of the Central New Brunswick Teachers' Council in Fredericton Dec. 8. The Council supported the Victoria Teachers' Association resolution asking for revision of the section of the Schools Act dealing with grants to school libraries. The Council represents local teachers' associations in Queens, Sunbury, York and Fredericton areas.

### SIDNEY WAR MEMORIAL LIBRARY PROPOSED

Inclusion of a public library in the War Memorial Civic Center proposed for Sydney has been suggested by a Sydney Post-Record editorial, which says:

The library presently is confined to quarters unworthy of a city of Sydney's population and importance. The combined need for auditorium and adequately-contained library can be met with a structure including the two. ... It would be appropriate to centralize in one locality the functions for our aesthetic enjoyment and aspiration—indeed the functions of our progress as a people.

This editorial, on Jan. 7, was followed by another on Jan. 12 cautioning that discussion of the proposed Civic Center, and of a library in it, should not be confused with or used as a digression from other projects of interest to Cape Breton generally, such as the Cape Breton Vocational High School plan. Sydney, it said, would have to pay for its own library.

## New Glace Bay Library Opened

The Glace Bay branch of the Cape Breton Regional Library opened its new quarters on January 5 with a booming 633 circulation. The library is now at 36 Union Street, in the former Bank of Montreal building. The deed for the building was presented to the Town of Glace Bay when the bank moved to new quarters, and town authorities were able to move the library from the old High School building on MacLean Street.

At the rear of the library, a raised section has been added for the children's library. This is removed entirely from the main section of the library and has a separate entrance.

The vital need of adequate library facilities in a modern community was stressed by the speakers at the opening ceremony. Mr. Peter Grossman, Director of the Nova Scotia library system, was the guest speaker at the ceremony, which was presided over by Mayor Dan MacDonald. Other speakers included Mr. Clarie Gillis, M.P. for Cape Breton South, Mr. W. Stewart, Maritime superintendent of branches of the Bank of Montreal, Rev. S. Kerr, pastor of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Rev. John McLeod of St. Anthony's Parish, Passchendaele, and Mr. Ted Sullivan, county warden.

Miss Dorothy MacKay, the librarian, and Miss Shirley Coulter, children's librarian, reported a library membership at the beginning of 1953 of 4484, and added 174 in the first five days, with a circulation of 1594 volumes.

## Murray Harbor Branch Reopens

The P.E.I. Libraries report a "wonderful response" by the people of Murray Harbor to the reopening on Nov. 20 of their library in an attractive new building. On Saturday afternoon, following the formal opening on Thursday evening, people from all over the village and surrounding district came to get something good to read for the first time since early June.

The library had closed last summer when Mrs. Fayne MacLeod, in whose home the books were housed, resigned because of illness.

The new librarian, Mrs. Garnet Penny, had a busy Saturday—the last day of Young Canada's Book Week. Eager children quickly spotted the new books on display. Robert McCloskey's One morning in Maine, Babar's Christmas, Cowboy in the making were among the first to go out. Grownups showed the same enthusiasm in the evening, and high interest is still being maintained. The first twenty hours of opening saw 216 adult and 460 children's books loaned—one book every two minutes. Total circulation from the Murray Harbor library from January to mid-June 1952 had been only 972!

The area has been made library-conscious, through an extensive publicity campaign from P.E.I. Libraries headquarters. Circular letters to every householder set forth the need for adequate library facilities, their responsibility to establish and maintain a good library building, and the advantages and joys they would receive in return. The response was gratifying. Murray Harbor now has a splendid library, an excellent book collection, and a friendly, capable librarian. The time, money and labor given by enthusiastic people of the community is now bringing enjoyable results—a fine demonstration that "Rural Canada Needs Books".

## Regional, Public Circulation High in 1952

Constantly growing use of the public library services in Nova Scotia is shown in 1952 annual statistics recently gathered. The Halifax Memorial Library, and the four Regional Libraries, together loaned over 800,000 books. Circulations by regions were:

Annapolis Valley	121,466
Cape Breton	218,953
Colchester-East Hants	133,338
Pictou County	87,668
Halifax Memorial Library	240,432

Registrations are rising. The Cape Breton Regional Library, for example, had 23,254 registered borrowers (up 4475 from 1951) or 20 percent of the area's population. The Halifax Memorial Library had 13,503 members, just under 16 percent of the city's 1951 population. Together, these five major library systems serve some 330,000 people, just over half of Nova Scotia's population.

There are not enough books to fill the demand, the public librarians agree. Cape Breton, with 30,773 volumes—one for every 3.6 people—has a turnover of 7.3 loans per book. Halifax, with 37,087 volumes—one for every 2.3 people—loaned each book an average of 6.5 times. Halifax readers were the most voracious, consuming an average 17.8 books apiece per year; Cape Bretoners read 9.4 apiece. The cataloging departments are doing their best to meet this demand—at Halifax, they "Sent Out the Reserves" 15,435 strong—over 4000 juvenile, and 11,378 adult books. Cape Breton got 8779 new books. Yet this is only one new book apiece in Halifax—one new book for every three borrowers in Cape Breton!

## Young Canada's Book Week in P.E.I.

Almost every branch of the Prince Edward Island Libraries has reported enthusiastically on the observance of Young Canada's Book Week for 1952. Each branch received a number of new children's books for display during the week and circulation afterward. The C.L.A. and other posters were used to brighten up the libraries, and booklists were distributed. Several centers arranged a display of books in the village stores to attract those who are not regular library patrons.

In the Charlottetown library, the core of the display was a small tree with little colored ladders leading to the branches. On the branches were colored leaves, each bearing the title of a book—the theme being "Climbing the Tree of Knowledge". Most libraries held Open House for children on one afternoon during the week. Stories were read or told, and the children took part in a book quiz sent out from headquarters, and enjoyed a treat of candy or apples.

The Home and School Association of Tignish devoted a meeting to Young Canada's Book Week. Senior pupils presented playlets concerned with books, and Rev. Patrick Walsh talked about the value of good reading. Miss Jean Gill, Charlottetown Librarian, spoke on children's books to the Prince Street Home and School Association and showed attractive new books. The Charlottetown Public Library also broadcast on CFCY; the librarian introduced the Book Week, and city school children presented a play, "Bobby and Betty in Bookland". Circulation rose sharply during the week—we wish we could do it every week!

## Children's Work Grows in Pictou Region

Reporting from New Glasgow, Doreen Bailey writes to the BULLETIN that "We just work in a very unexciting way... I feel like making up some items of snappy news to make your readers sit up and look." Then she reports a 1952 circulation near 90,000—see the report on public libraries elsewhere in this BULLETIN—and other activities correspondingly big. Unexciting? But busy!

Celebration of Young Canada's Book Week in the Pictou Region was effective despite cramped space. There were newspaper items, and an exhibit of children's books in a Pictou store window. C.L.A. booklists were displayed and distributed in all the branches. The New Glasgow branch had a small display, hampered by lack of space. Stan MacDougall spoke to the Pictou Home and School Association during Book Week about the literature displayed on newsstands.

The New Glasgow Citizens' Council Hobby Show in November gave a prominent position to a library display. It featured a "Reading is Fun" poster (painted in the library), Canadian books and hobby books.

Children used the Pictou region to the number of 37,094 books borrowed in 1952. Four story hours a week were held for eight months of the year, with an average attendance of 1000 each month. One story hour a week was given in each of the four towns. All the classes in the schools in each town were visited once in the year.

Once-weekly hospital service with a book truck is operated by Mrs. Hayman, the New Glasgow staff's efficient typist.

Stan MacDougall and Patricia O'Neill were visitors to the opening of the new Glace Bay library—Stan being specially interested as he was formerly librarian at Glace Bay.

## Posters, Pamphlets, Chickenpox in Valley

Joy Scudamore reports: The Annapolis Valley Regional Library is as usual a hub of activity. Circulation for 1952 hit the 120,000 mark. The Annapolis Branch has a decorative display of French posters (from the French National Railroads) which have been much enjoyed by the reading public. The new pamphlet stand made by Wally Rice in the Branch's reading room contains material provided by the Adult Education Division of the Department of Education. Joy Scudamore came down with a dose of chickenpox at Christmas. The Home and School Association at Wilmot have offered to mend books so Joy and Marguerite Wagner are off to show them how on Feb. 9. The bookmobile is still bearing up on the roads, although it took an hour to get up the Port Lorne mountain one snowy day. Diana Lockhart has her fingers crossed hopeful that the new budget will be passed to meet increased costs of operation and expansion of the library. Diana spent a lively day at the Folk School at Meteghan River, and attended the closing at Yarmouth High School. The closing was devoted to libraries and Di was called upon to answer questions from the audience. One of our borrowers, Ernest Buckler, of Bridgetown, has had favorable reviews of his first novel, The Mountain and the Valley, published in October by Henry Holt (Clarke Irwin in Canada). Another borrower is hoping to publish a book on fishing; we are hopeful too. Life in The Valley is never dull.

## March to Be Active Month in N. B.

New Brunswick's second annual Library Week will be held March 16 to 21. As was done last year, libraries throughout the province will sponsor book displays and exhibits featuring ways in which the library can serve its community. Posters, radio and newspaper publicity, and talks to voluntary organizations will be part of the observance of the week.

The Grossman Report on a survey of libraries in New Brunswick, now in the hands of the provincial Minister of Education, may be ready for distribution in time for Library Week. The Report will be publicized by newspaper articles, group discussions, etc. The survey, made in the summer of 1952 by Mr. Peter Grossman, Director of the Provincial Library of Nova Scotia, is expected to summarize New Brunswick's existing library resources and recommend development of a system of regional libraries for the province.

The first provincial library week in Canada was held in British Columbia in 1951. Last year the New Brunswick Library Association sponsored the first New Brunswick Library Week to further its aim of promoting improved library service in the province. Response throughout the province was so enthusiastic that the Week is being repeated this year.

### ROYAL SOCIETY FELLOWSHIPS OFFERED TO LIBRARIANS

The Royal Society of Canada has been empowered by the Government of Canada to offer Fellowships of \$4000 and Scholarships of \$2000, plus transportation to Europe from blocked funds in France and the Netherlands. These are open to librarians, and anyone interested in applying should go to the Office of the Secretary, Royal Society of Canada, National Research Council Building, Ottawa. Applications for Fellowships and Scholarships should be in the hands of the Society not later than April 1, 1953.

### HALIFAX NEWS NOTES

The Maritime Regional Laboratory of the National Research Council has supplied both social and business news this month. Miss Norven Crombie, their librarian, was married in December to Mr. Peter Austin. Mr. Austin is studying at the Provincial Normal College in Truro; Mrs. Austin commutes daily by train to Halifax from Stewiacke, where the Austins have purchased a house. Librarians have lots of stamina! Also, Mrs. Austin has produced a typewritten checklist of book holdings in the N.R.C. Halifax library, and plans to issue quarterly lists of acquisitions, in April, July, September and January.

Mrs. Marjorie MacEachern, who during the fall term was assistant librarian at the Nova Scotia Technical College and part-time librarian at the Nova Scotia Museum of Science, is now on the full-time staff of the Museum. Under her hands, the ghosts of the old Provincial Science Library once more see a library in the same rooms. At the Technical College, Miss Doris Thibodeau, a library school student at Mount St. Vincent College, is working part-time.

# Bulletin Policy - Discussion Needed?

Halifax, N.S., February 2, 1953.

Mr. Donald A. Redmond, Editor  
M.L.A. BULLETIN

Dear Don,

I have been wondering about the next <sup>i.e.</sup> this--Ed., issue of the M.L.A. Bulletin, the impression being that the publication date was last December.

First of all, I should like to say that I am not too sure about the policy behind the publication, and, as far as I know, the date of issue may be left to the discretion of the Editor. The fact remains, however, that my impression is that the present arrangement is haphazard and might even suggest a lack of cooperation by the members of the Association in contributing to it.

I think that we should be very conscious of the Bulletin as a publication. There are two reasons that occur to me for saying this: (1) The Bulletin is a publication of a definite group of professional people; (2) As a publication it is evidence of the librarians' tastes and standards. We have, therefore, to think of the Bulletin as a professional periodical and as a means by which others judge our work, neither of which should be overlooked for practical reasons, e.g. finances or time.

I have had definite reservations about certain articles that have appeared from time to time--frankly, I think that they were degrading to the publication. I have three suggestions to make:

1. That the Bulletin be discontinued unless it comes up to set standards;
2. That it be made a newsletter, re-named accordingly, and its contents confined to items of a factual nature; or,
3. That it be put on a sound periodical basis and express the ideas and news of librarianship in these parts.

This is not intended, Don, to be a criticism of your editorship. Rather, I want to say that I think the interest in the Bulletin under you has increased, and I think that you have seen its possibilities as a professional publication and have increased its scope. It has come time, I feel, however, to re-examine the purposes of the Bulletin and to set up the necessary standards. If I have interpreted your method correctly, I am in favor of it, but with the stated qualifications; and to meet these, an editorial staff or board is required--the job is too big to publish the library affairs of three provinces single-handed. You, with your experience as editor, are likely more aware of the shortcomings and possibilities of the Bulletin than most of us, and I believe that it would be in the interests of librarianship in the Maritimes to have it discussed openly, in the Bulletin itself, or at the annual conference.

To a bigger and better Bulletin!

Sincerely,

Jim MacEacheron.

I second the motion. For a few additional comments and explanations on the present operation of the Bulletin, see the editorial page. Now let's hear what the Maritime librarians want done about the Bulletin--write to me at Box 1000, Halifax, N.S. --D. A. R.,

# SURVEY SIDELIGHTS

BY PETER GROSSMAN

Some of the more interesting aspects of the New Brunswick survey were only indirectly concerned with library service, although most of these happy accidents made valuable contributions to my knowledge of the people and the Province.

I remember with particular pleasure the few short hours spent with Dr. Bourgeois in the library of his home in Richibucto, the hospitality of Miss Louise Manny in Newcastle, the pleasant lunch in the Convent at St. Basile, and the keen interest of Mr. Bob Wood in the Museum of the Miramichi Natural History Society in Chatham. These were just a few of the fascinating sidelights on the survey.

I doubt if Dr. Bourgeois will welcome publicity but I am sure that he will forgive me if I share some of the pleasure of my visit. My introduction was informal. Dr. Bourgeois has his practise in Richibucto and I arrived at the large and gracious house during visiting hours. Having convinced him that I was not a prospective patient and explained that I was interested in books, he kindly but with some reserve showed me his library of medical reference books. It was not until he was satisfied that my interest in the history of the Maritimes was genuine and without ulterior motive that the flood of his enthusiasm burst forth.

As we sat with the notebook containing the record of his acquisitions he commented on each item, appraising its value or telling some anecdote in connection with its purchase. During one of the interruptions caused by the arrival of a patient, I glanced at the end of the book and found that there were almost two thousand entries. Although deeply interested, I had other appointments and forced myself to move through the list more rapidly.

Eventually we went up to the library which contains some rare Maritime Canadiana, although Dr. Bourgeois says regretfully that he started collecting much too late. He is not only interested in the materials of the past, but receives every Maritime newspaper and is building up a clipping file of material to supplement his books. He has acquired a collection of background material which, though it may have some gaps, is nevertheless sufficiently complete for some of the historical research that he hopes to do.

From the library window I looked out across his fields sloping down to the shore, where he has a comfortable little cottage in which he can work undisturbed. Dr. Bourgeois is proud of his ancestry, being descended from the famous Verendrye family of Trois-Rivières, but though his ancestors explored the West, he is of the Maritimes and will, I am sure, make his own contribution to our history.

It would take another report to tell of the Museum adjoining the library at St. Joseph's University where among many other articles used by the early Acadians is an early 17th century hand organ still able to roll out a processional or wedding march.

I am still curious about the papers in the locked trunk in the basement of the Woodstock Library and I would like to have time to look through the journals in the Museum at Chatham or trace the origin of the badly burned Gaelic Bible which must have survived the great Miramichi fire.

I think I will go back to New Brunswick, on a personal survey next time.

## PROGRESS TOWARD A NATIONAL LIBRARY...

Auspicious beginning for the New Year was the late-December announcement of progress toward Canada's National Library. Fire damage to the Library of Parliament last summer helped to hasten action on the project. Dr. W. Kaye Lamb was appointed National Librarian, effective January 1, with Dr. Raymond Tanghe as Assistant Librarian. Estimates for 1953-54 are expected to provide for the cost of plans and preliminary work for the National Library building, which is to be near the Supreme Court on the bank of the Ottawa River. Meanwhile the book collection will grow, as the National Library Act, now in effect, requires publishers to deposit with the National Library two copies of each book published in Canada.

Maritime representatives on the 14-member National Library Advisory Council are: Mr. Harold Newell, Librarian, Gooling Memorial Library, St. John's Nfld.; Canon Stanley Walker, President, University of King's College, Halifax; Hon. Thane A. Campbell, Chief Justice of Prince Edward Island; Dr. Alfred G. Bailey, Dean of Arts, University of New Brunswick. Nine librarians from various parts of Canada are included on the Council.

## C.L.A. CONTINUES SALES TAX FIGHT...

Efforts to have the sales tax on books removed culminated on Jan. 20 in a meeting between the Minister of Finance and a Canadian Library Association delegation. In support of its appeal the C.L.A. presented over one hundred statements from universities, national voluntary associations, libraries and library organizations, including a letter from the M.L.A. The petition pointed out the contradiction of principle inherent in taxing books, stressed the importance of reducing book prices as far as possible, and quoted the Royal Commission on Arts, Letters and Sciences: "...the Commission believes that the Federal Government would do an important service to Canadian letters and to Canadian scholarship by abandoning the sales tax on books of every description."

## GOVERNMENT SHOULD SUBSIDIZE LIBRARIES, M. P. SAYS...

It seems to be a sign of something or other, M.L.A. President Dorothy Cullen notes, when a Member of Parliament, Mr. O. L. Jones (CCF-Yale) in the debate on the control of obscene literature suggested that the Canadian government should subsidize libraries, particularly rural libraries, which would provide good books to counteract the trash available at news-stands.

## L. C. RULES FOR CATALOGING RECORDS PUBLISHED...

Libraries with phonograph record collections will welcome a preliminary edition of Library of Congress Rules for Descriptive Cataloging... Phonorecords, just out. Printed catalog cards for recordings will also be available, L. C. has announced. The new code brings up to date practice first codified by the Music Library Association in 1942. Copies of the pamphlet are free.

## HALIFAX LIBRARIAN OFF TO ENGLAND...

Miss Janet Turner, who has been a cataloger at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library, has left to go to England to continue library work. Westerner Turner is "going East, young lady, going East". Even the attractive new paint job in the basement quarters of the Provincial Library, in the Chronicle Building, couldn't hold her longer—although by the time the painters finished, everybody in the P. L. was thoroughly fed up with the operation. Are the results worth waiting for?

# New Brunswick Observes Book Week

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BY A. R. ROGERS

Libraries all over New Brunswick joined enthusiastically in the observance of Young Canada's Book Week, Nov. 15-22. Centers like Saint John and Moncton which have fulltime trained librarians led the way, but other towns were not far behind.

Fredericton library enthusiasts struggled valiantly to overcome the obstacle of having no public library. A special display of children's books was arranged for the window of the Maritime Electric Co. Organized by Miss Moira Thompson of the U.N.B. library staff, with the assistance of Mrs. Frances Gammon and Mrs. Jean Boone, the display was gay and colorful. A selection of recent Canadian children's books was sent from the local bookstores. Part of the display was arranged by the University Press to tell the story of how a children's book is printed. The theme stressed throughout Fredericton's need of a public library. Various sections of the exhibit illustrated the various services that could be offered through the boys' and girls' section of a public library.

Fredericton High School observed Book Week. The Student Government Library Committee sponsored a program with the theme "Each Student a Reader". The objective was to have each of the 650 students borrow a book during the week. A display of Canadians was arranged, with a special shelf for Fredericton writers like Bliss Carman and Sir Charles G. D. Roberts. Other schools in the city also observed the week with special displays, book talks to home and school associations, etc.

St. Dunstan's Parish Library, Fredericton, observed the Book Week with special displays of books for young people. "The Cow with the Musical Moo" by Desmond Facey (rapidly becoming known as Fredericton's Lewis Carroll) and "Maggie Muggins" by Mary E. Grannan (Fredericton-born author of the "Just Mary" series) were given special prominence.

Moncton Public Library arranged a display of new children's books which the Librarian, Miss Elisabeth Condon, had been gathering since the summer months. Parents were encouraged to visit the library and inspect the exhibit, which was designed to show them what their children could find in the Public Library and at the same time offer tactful suggestions for Christmas gifts.

Grand Falls Public Library had a window display of books and two C. L. A. posters. Mrs. A. Ferguson of the Grand Falls Public Library Association visited all the town schools during the week.

The Saint John Free Public Library arranged a special book exhibit in the Boys' and Girls' Room and placed posters announcing the Week in prominent positions throughout the library. Mrs. J. G. Hart, the Librarian, addressed two meetings of home and school associations during the Week.

The Community Library in Milltown, formally opened on Oct. 17, featured a display relating to Canada, the Royal Family and Empire study. The Milltown Home and School Association met during the week to discuss recreational reading for youth.

## WANT PUBLIC LIBRARY FOR FREDERICTON...

The Fredericton City Council is discussing the matter of a free public library for the city. Deputy Mayor Mrs. A. S. Ferguson introduced the subject at a meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 27. The matter was搁置 at the moment, but will probably be brought up again within the next few weeks after further study has been made. Meanwhile, the Fredericton Council of the I.O.D.E. is supporting a campaign of persistent persuasion until a public library becomes a reality. All eight Fredericton I.O.D.E. chapters have signed, and other voluntary organizations are expected to petition City Hall for a tax-supported free public library, during the winter months. Local librarians are riding in the campaign.

## HOME AND SCHOOL FEDERATIONS PROMOTE CHILDREN'S READING...

The Manitoba Home and School Federation have prepared a 16-page pamphlet called "How to Make Books Available and How to Encourage Children to Read Them." This is a very worthwhile effort of parents, teachers and librarians.

In New Brunswick the Home and School Federation is sending out graded buying lists of stories pertaining to the curriculum, as well as a list of publishers, suitable magazines, books about school-libraries, library films, and practical ideas to assist those looking after school libraries. A French list of books was also attempted with the help of the C.I.A. children's section for the French schools. New Brunswick children need books to read, and their schools have very little to offer—however, these lists will mean little if they are not followed up. New Brunswick librarians hope to do this; but wish they had regional libraries to help them.

Maritime Home and School Federation Children's Reading Chairman are Miss June Schmidt, Bear River, N.S.; Dr. L. W. Shaw, Dept. of Education, Charlottetown, P.E.I.; and Mrs. J. G. Hart, Saint John, N.B. The Home and School Federation is also interested in reading lists for Retardant and Retarded Readers and for the superior child. Has anyone a good list? These would be helpful to the Children's Reading Chairman.

## FILM COUNCILS ACTIVE IN NEW BRUNSWICK...

"Library on Wheels" and "Know Your Library", two well-known films, are going out on the National Film Board circuit in New Brunswick in February to prepare people for Mr. Grosvenor's report. Organizations have been asked to use the films for March meetings in order to celebrate New Brunswick Library Week, March 16-21. The Saint John Film Council is holding a Film Workshop on March 20-21. A special speaker will discuss how to use film effectively, and documentary films will be screened. The Film Council has found that their projector, bought a year ago, has been in such demand that it is necessary to get a second machine. A copy of "Royal Journey", showing the 1951 trip across Canada of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, was purchased last fall and has been most popular.

## ACTIVE MONCTON LIBRARY ADDS RECORD COLLECTION...

Moncton readers borrowed over 2000 more books in 1952 than in 1951, for a total of some 50,000 loans, and the library's newest service, a collection of phonograph records, has been enthusiastically received. The initial stock of 350 records includes symphonic, operatic, instrumental and vocal records. The records are loaned on regular borrowers' cards for two weeks.